REMARKS

Claims 1 – 10, 18, and 19 are currently pending. Claims 1, 7, and 18 are the pending independent claims. Claims 1 – 6 and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Number 7,271,269 to Antoncic et al. ("Antoncic"). Claims 7 – 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Each of the foregoing rejections is respectfully traversed. Favorable reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

I. Claim 7 is Rewritten in Independent Form.

In view of the Examiner's indication that Claims 7 – 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, Claim 7 has been amended and rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of Claim 1. Thus, Claim 7 is now in allowable form. Likewise Claims 8 – 10 are allowable since each claim depends from now allowable Claim 7.

II. The Antoncic Rejections.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's obviousness rejections of Claims 1 – 6 and 18-19, based upon Antoncic, cannot be maintained.

Claim 1, as amended herein, calls for a pharmaceutical composition comprising a tablet core, and further specifies that the tablet core comprises an active pharmaceutical ingredient which exists in a first polymorph form susceptible to interconversion into one or more other polymorph forms, and further comprising from about 50% to about 70% by weight silicified microcrystalline cellulose, a stabilizing substance selected from the group consisting of colloidal silicon dioxide, finely divided silicon dioxide, magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, and polyethylene glycol, and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein the stabilizing substance is present in an amount from about 1 % to about 10 % by weight of the pharmaceutical composition. Similarly, Claim 18 recites a method for treating hypertension and/or chronic renal failure by administering to a patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising a tablet core, wherein the tablet core is similar to that described in Claim 1.

This is in no way suggested by the Antoncic reference. The Examiner attempts to derive the subject matter of Claims 1 and 18 by combining the disclosures of Examples 50, 52a, and 52b in Antoncic. In particular, the Examiner points to Example 50 as disclosing the use of polyethylene glycol. However, it is evident that the polyethylene glycol disclosed in Antoncic Example 50 is used only in a film coating, not as a part of the tablet core.

In fact, none of Examples 50, 52a, or 52b in Antoncic (alone or in combination) suggests a tablet core which comprises an active pharmaceutical ingredient, from about 50% to about 70% by weight silicified microcrystalline cellulose, a stabilizing substance selected from the group consisting of colloidal silicon dioxide, finely divided silicon dioxide, magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, and polyethylene glycol; and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein the stabilizing substance is present in an amount of from about 1 % to about 10 % by weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

In view of the foregoing, independent Claims 1 and 18 (and their respective independent claims) should now also be deemed to patentably distinguish over Antoncic.

In light of the foregoing, the present amendment is believed to place the application in a condition for allowance and entry of the foregoing amendments and allowance of Claims 1 – 10, 18, and 19 is respectfully solicited.

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for the appropriate extension of time and request that the fee for the extension along with any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper be charged to our **Deposit Account No. 12-2355.**

Respectfully submitted,

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